



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE
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Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



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CROP PRODUCTION – AUGUST 2018

ARIZONA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on August 1 conditions, **barley** production in Arizona is forecast at 1.25 million bushels, according to the August 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is unchanged from the July 1 forecast, but 44 percent below last year's crop. The area for harvest in 2018, at 10,000 acres, is down 7,000 acres from the 17,000 acres harvested last year. Barley yield is forecast at 125.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the July 1 forecast, but 6.0 bushels below last year.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 8.53 million bushels, unchanged from the July 1 forecast, but down 5 percent from the 8.99 million bushels produced last year. Estimated area for harvest, at 79,000 acres, is 10,000 acres less than the 89,000 acres harvested in 2017. As of August 1, the average yield is forecast at 108.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the July 1 forecast and 7.0 bushels above last year's final yield.

Arizona farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 270,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, down 5,000 acres from 2017. Alfalfa production is forecast at 2.16 million tons, down 6 percent from the 2.31 million tons produced in 2017. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 8.00 tons per acre, compared to last year's yield of 8.40 tons per acre.

All **cotton** production in Arizona is expected to total 481,000 480-lb bales, down 7 percent from 2017. **Upland cotton** harvested acreage is forecast at 149,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from last year. As of August 1, producers expect to harvest 455,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, down 6 percent from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 1,466 pounds per acre, up 2 pounds from last year. As of July 29, 76 percent of cotton bolls had opened, compared with 74 percent last year and the five-year average of 71 percent. The cotton crop was rated 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 53 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 7 percent excellent as of July 30. **Pima cotton** harvested acreage is estimated at 13,500 acres, down 1,500 acres from last year. As of August 1, producers expect to harvest 26,000 480-lb bales of Pima cotton, compared with 30,200 bales last year. Pima yield is forecast at 924 pounds per acre, down 42 pounds from last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Barley production is forecast at 156 million bushels, up 1 percent from the July forecast and up 10 percent from 2017. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 76.3 bushels per acre, up 0.7 bushel from the previous forecast and up 3.7 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.05 million acres, is unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 5 percent from 2017.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 73.4 million bushels, down 2 percent from the July forecast but up 34 percent from 2017. The United States yield is forecast at 39.9 bushels per acre, down 0.8 bushel from the July forecast but up 14.2 bushels from last year. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 1.84 million acres, unchanged from last month, but 14 percent below 2017.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture** dry hay for 2018 is forecast at 57.8 million tons, up 5 percent from 2017. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.33 tons per acre, up 0.01 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 17.4 million acres, unchanged from the June forecast, but up 5 percent from 2017.

All **cotton** production is forecast at 19.2 million 480-pound bales, down 8 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 911 pounds per harvested acre, up 6 pounds from last year. Harvested area for all cotton is expected to total 10.1 million acres, down 9 percent from 2017. Upland cotton production is forecast at 18.5 million 480-pound bales, down 9 percent from 2017. Upland harvested area is expected to total 9.90 million acres, down 9 percent from last year. Pima cotton production, forecast at 779,000 bales, is up 11 percent from last year. Pima cotton harvested area, at 240,400 acres, is down 4 percent from 2017.

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